



Department of Commerce

Innovation is in our nature.

Energy Efficiency through Transportation Planning (EETP) Grants Administered by Growth Management Services

How do these grants relate to EECBG Formula funds?

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program (EECBG) was originally authorized and signed into federal law on December 19, 2007. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) provides funds for the EECBG program through the U.S. Department of Energy (U.S. DOE) to local and state government, Indian tribes, and territories to develop and implement projects to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions.

Larger cities and counties will receive direct EECBG formula funds from U.S.DOE. The Washington State Department of Commerce (The Department) will receive \$10,645,000 in EECBG formula funds. Of those funds, \$6.4 million will be available in a separate program for grants to small cities with fewer than 35,000 in population, and small counties with fewer than 200,000 in population. The remaining funds will be used to:

- 1) Provide competitive grants to cities and counties for energy efficiency planning in the transportation sector through the Growth Management Services (GMS) unit of the Department of Commerce. Approximately \$770,000 will be available. The focus of these grants will be to reduce transportation-related energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, and vehicle miles traveled. The Department is in the process of developing preliminary application guidelines. See www.commerce.wa.gov and look under "Recovery at Commerce" for the newest information.
- 2) Expand the Resource Conservation Manager (RCM) program of the Washington State University (WSU) Extension Energy Program. Approximately \$750,000 will be available. See the WSU fact sheet on the RCM program at www.energy.wsu.edu/projects/rem/.
- 3) Support the administration of the EECBG program.

What are the timelines for this grant?

The Department submitted its application for distribution of grant funds to U.S. DOE on June 22, 2009. Upon approval of the application by U.S. DOE, the Department will issue final application guidelines and notice of competitive application for Energy Efficiency through Transportation Planning grants. At this point, we expect to release applications on September 24th, 2009, and have set the deadline to submit applications to Commerce as Monday, October 26th, 2009, or four weeks after DOE approves the state's application, whichever is later. Grant recipients must expend all funds by April 30, 2012.

Who is eligible to apply for EETP grants?

All cities and counties in the state, regardless of size and whether they received direct EECBG formula funds, will be eligible to apply for EETP grants.

How much funding is available?

A total of approximately \$770,000 will be available for distribution through competitive grants. Maximum grant amounts will be \$75,000 for a single city or county, and \$150,000 for a collaborative proposal. Partner entities may include MPOs/RTPOs, EDCs, COGs, and other special purpose governments.

What are the eligible activities that can be funded by an EETP grant?

Federal grant guidelines require that activities funded under this grant:

- Maximize fossil fuel use reductions and total energy use reductions;
- Provide for improved coordination of energy-related policies and programs to maximize the impact of the program on long-term priorities;
- Are cost-effective, and leverage state, local and federal funds; and
- Yield continuous benefits over time, including economic benefits and improved environmental and health indicators associated with the reduction of fossil fuel emissions.

Eligible activities may include but are not limited to:

1. Local or local/regional integrated planning activities such as revisions to regional transportation plans, city or county land use or transportation elements, and/or other supporting planning elements.
2. Development of comprehensive plan components addressing compact town or neighborhood centers, station-area plans or other transit-oriented development, growth and transportation efficient centers, satellite work centers, or school siting or co-location of public facilities.
3. Development of, or the review and update of, development regulations which may influence mode choice such as subdivision regulations, public works standards including complete street standards, streetscape and urban design guidelines, zoning, parking reductions, multimodal transportation concurrency mechanisms, or other related regulations.
4. Transportation demand management programs such as incentives, employee flex time, telework or other programs to reduce commutes by single occupancy vehicles.
5. Improvements in operation and system efficiency of the transportation system such as implementation of intelligent transportation system (ITS) strategies.

What are the Recovery Act requirements for this program?

- Buy American – Use of Iron, Steel and Manufactured Goods
- Davis-Bacon Act wage rates
- Environmental and cultural review
- Listing Recovery Act jobs with the Employment Security Department
- Attending Department training on Recovery Act requirements
- Quarterly reporting on progress and metrics such as jobs created, emissions reduced, and energy saved.

Who do I contact?

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